

OPPORTUNITY TO OBJECT Six Rivers Aquatic Restoration Project (PALS #42051) Six Rivers National Forest As the Responsible Official, Forest Supervisor Ted O. McArthur prepared a draft Decision Notice (DN) for the Six Rivers Aquatic Restoration Project Final Environmental Assessment (EA) that presents the analysis and predicted environmental consequences of the No Action Alternative and the modified Proposed Action. The purpose of the project is to improve instream and riparian habitat to accelerate the recovery of North Coast salmon populations (federally listed threatened coho salmon, steelhead and Chinook salmon) and other Forest Service aquatic species, thereby fulfilling tribal trust responsibilities and obligations to local communities, recreation and commercial fishing industries. The Six Rivers Aquatic Restoration Project encompasses 1,234 miles of fisheries spawning, rearing, and over-wintering stream habitats associated with the Smith, Klamath, Trinity, Salmon, Mad, North Fork Eel and Van Duzen rivers and their tributaries, riparian habitats and water bodies occupied by native, non-salmonid aquatic fish and wildlife species, including 1,156 acres of lakes and ponds across all administrative units on the Six Rivers National Forest, as well as the Ukonom Ranger District of the Klamath National Forest under Six Rivers National Forest delegated administrative authority. The Six Rivers Aquatic Restoration Project would rectify and compensate for past natural and human-caused disturbances (i.e., impacts) to aquatic and riparian resources, regardless of the disturbance agent (e.g., floods, landslides, unmanaged recreational uses), by repairing and rehabilitating the environment. Site activities would compensate for past disturbances by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments to eliminate impacts over time using a combination of manual and heavy equipment methods within and alongside approximately 35 stream miles at specific sites identified through collaboration and around Fish Lake on the Orleans Ranger District (RD). Heavy equipment would only occur where there is existing equipment access, and, for the most part, along stream reaches where past restoration actions have occurred. The project also includes manual methods at specific sites informed and identified by stream surveys along the remaining 1,199 stream miles and within and around ponds and lakes. The extent and intensity of the individual project activities within and alongside the 1,234 stream miles and associated riparian areas would typically be less than 5 acres, completed over a few days or a couple of weeks, and spread throughout the forest to avoid measurable impacts and cumulative effects. The final EA and draft DN are available at the Six Rivers National Forest Supervisor's Office at 1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka, CA, or online at www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=42051. This proposed decision is subject to objection pursuant to 36 CFR 218 Subparts A and B. Objections will be accepted from those who submitted project-specific written comments during the designated scoping and/or comment periods. Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted comments unless based on new information arising after the designated comment period(s). Objections must be submitted within 45 days following the publication of this legal notice in the Eureka Times-Standard. The date of this legal notice is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection. Those wishing to object should not rely upon dates or timeframes provided by any other source. It is the objector's responsibility to ensure evidence of timely receipt (36 CFR 218.9). Objections must be submitted to the Reviewing Officer via mail: Regional Forester Randy Moore, USDA Forest Service, Attn: Six Rivers Aquatic Restoration Project, 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592; faxed to (707) 562-9229; hand-delivered to 1323 Club Drive, in Vallejo, CA, during business hours (M-F 8am to 4pm); or emailed to objections-pacificsouthwest-regional-office@fs.fed.us in a common format (.doc, .pdf, .rtf, .txt) with the Subject: Six Rivers Aquatic Restoration Project. Objections must include per 36 CFR 218.8(d): 1) name, address and phone number; 2) signature or other verification of authorship; 3) identification of a single lead objector when applicable; 4) project name, Responsible Official name and title, and name of affected national forest(s) and/or ranger district(s); 5) reasons for, and suggested remedies to resolve, your objections; and, 6) description of the connection between your objections and your prior comments. Incorporate documents by reference only as provided for at 36 CFR 218.8(b). For additional information, contact Carolyn Cook, Natural Resource Staff Officer, Six Rivers National Forest, at cacook@usda.gov or (707) 441-3661.

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